

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A sectional handle for a lacrosse stick, said sectional handle comprising:

an upper elongate section having a top end and a locking bottom end; a lower elongate section having a locking top end and a bottom end; and a mechanism for interlocking said locking bottom end of said upper elongate section with said locking top end of said lower elongate section such that said upper elongate section is substantially axially aligned with said lower elongate section;

wherein said top end of said first upper elongate section is suited for having mounted thereon a head including both a closed-loop frame and a net suspended substantially within the confines of said frame; and

wherein at least one of said upper or lower elongate sections is modular and said interlocking mechanism is releasable to allow at least one of said upper elongate section or said lower elongate section to be replaced as desired[.] ; and

wherein said upper elongate section and said lower elongate section are constructed of different materials such that they provide the handle sections with different performance characteristics

2. (Original) A sectional handle according to claim 1, wherein the length of said upper elongate section is substantially equal to the length of said lower section.

3. (Original) A sectional handle according to claim 1, wherein said upper elongate section and said lower elongate section each comprise substantially hollow tubing having a cross-section substantially resembling a shape selected from the group consisting of a circle, an eclipse, a polygon, and an octagon.

4. (Original) A sectional handle according to claim 1, wherein said upper elongate section comprises aluminum.

5. (Original) A sectional handle according to claim 1, wherein said upper elongate section comprises titanium.

6. (Original) A sectional handle according to claim 3, wherein said lower elongate section comprises at least one constituent material selected from the group consisting of aluminum, chromium, copper, fiberglass, graphite, iron, manganese, magnesium, plastic, silicon, titanium, and zinc.

7. (Original) A sectional handle according to claim 3, wherein said lower elongate section is formed of a composite containing both aluminum and graphite.

8. (Original) A sectional handle according to claim 3, wherein said lower elongate section is formed of aluminum substantially covered with woven graphite fibers.

9. (Original) A sectional handle according to claim 3, wherein said interlocking mechanism includes an axially aligned protrusion located on one of either said locking bottom end of said upper elongate section or said locking top end of said lower elongate section, and wherein said protrusion is suited for being matingly received and locked within the hollow of the other one of either said locking bottom end of said upper elongate section or said locking top end of said lower elongate section.

10. (Original) A sectional handle, according to claim 1, said sectional handle further comprising at least one substitutive upper elongate section;

wherein each said substitutive upper elongate section similarly has a top end and a locking bottom end; and

wherein each said substitutive upper elongate section has a unique flexibility characteristic and is selectively interchangeable, in a modular fashion, with said upper elongate section interlocked within said sectional handle.

11. (Original) A sectional handle according to claim 1, said sectional handle further comprising at least one substitutive lower elongate section;

wherein each said substitutive lower elongate section similarly has a locking top end and a bottom end; and

wherein each said substitutive lower elongate section has a unique flexibility characteristic and is selectively interchangeable, in a modular fashion, with said lower elongate section interlocked within said sectional handle.

12. (Original) A sectional handle according to claim 1, further comprising an intermediate elongate section having a locking top end and a locking bottom end, wherein said mechanism interlocks said locking bottom end of said upper elongate section with said locking top end of said intermediate elongate section such that said upper elongate section is substantially axially aligned with said intermediate elongate section; and

a second mechanism for interlocking said locking bottom end of said intermediate elongate section with said locking top end of said lower elongate section such that said intermediate elongate section is substantially axially aligned with said lower elongate section.

13. (Original) A sectional handle according to claim 12, said sectional handle further comprising at least one substitutive intermediate elongate section;

wherein each said substitutive intermediate elongate section similarly has a locking top end and a locking bottom end; and

wherein each said substitutive intermediate elongate section has a unique flexibility characteristic and is selectively interchangeable, in a modular fashion, with said intermediate elongate section interlocked within said sectional handle.

14. (Currently Amended) A lacrosse stick comprising:

a sectional handle including an upper elongate section having both a top end and a bottom end and a lower elongate section having both a top end and a bottom end and a substitutive section having a flexibility characteristic different from said upper elongate section and said lower elongate section and that can be substituted for either said upper elongate section or said lower elongate section;

a mechanism for interlocking said upper elongate section with said lower elongate section such that said upper elongate section is substantially axially aligned with said lower elongate section; and

a head mounted on one end of said sectional handle and including both a closed-loop frame and a net suspended within the confines of said frame;

wherein at least one of said upper or lower elongate sections is modular and said interlocking mechanism is releasable so that at least one of said upper elongate section or said lower elongate section may be replaced as desired.

15. (Original) A lacrosse stick, according to claim 14, wherein the length of said upper elongate section is substantially equal to the length of said lower elongate section.

16. (Original) A lacrosse stick according to claim 14, wherein said upper elongate section and said lower elongate section each comprise substantially hollow tubing having a cross-section substantially resembling a shape selected from the group consisting of a circle, an ellipse, a polygon, and an octagon.

17. (Original) A lacrosse stick according to claim 16 wherein said upper elongate section comprises aluminum.

18. (Original) A lacrosse stick according to claim 16, wherein said upper elongate section comprises titanium.

19. (Original) A lacrosse stick according to claim 16, wherein said lower elongate section comprises at least one constituent material selected from the group consisting of aluminum, chromium, copper, fiberglass, graphite, iron, manganese, magnesium, plastic, silicon, titanium, and zinc.

20. (Original) A lacrosse stick according to claim 16, wherein said lower elongate section comprises aluminum and graphite.

21. (Original) A lacrosse stick according to claim 16, wherein said lower elongate section comprises aluminum substantially covered with woven graphite fibers.

22. (Original) A lacrosse stick according to claim 16, wherein said interlocking mechanism includes an axially aligned protrusion located on one of either said upper elongate section or said lower elongate section, and wherein said protrusion is suited for being matingly received and locked within a hollow of the other one of either said upper elongate section or said lower elongate section.

23. (Currently Amended) A lacrosse stick according to claim 14, ~~said lacrosse stick further comprising said substitutive section includes~~ at least one substitutive upper elongate section for said sectional handle;

wherein said at least one substitutive upper elongate section has a top end and a locking bottom end; and

wherein said at least one substitutive upper elongate section has a unique flexibility characteristic and is selectively interchangeable, in a modular fashion, with said upper elongate section interlocked within said sectional handle.

24. (Currently Amended) A lacrosse stick according to claim 14, ~~said lacrosse stick further comprising said substitutive section includes at least one substitutive lower section for said sectional handle;~~

wherein said at least one substitutive lower elongate section similarly has a locking top end and a bottom end; and

wherein said at least one substitutive lower elongate section has a unique flexibility characteristic and is selectively interchangeable, in a modular fashion, with said lower elongate section interlocked within said sectional handle.

25. (Original) A lacrosse stick according to claim 14, said sectional handle further comprising an intermediate elongate section having a locking top end and a locking bottom end, wherein said mechanism interlocks said upper elongate section with said locking top end of said intermediate elongate section such that said upper elongate section is substantially axially aligned with said intermediate elongate section; and

a second mechanism for interlocking said locking bottom end of said intermediate elongate section with said lower elongate section such that said intermediate elongate section is substantially axially aligned with said lower elongate section.

26. (Original) A lacrosse stick according to claim 25, said sectional handle further comprising at least one substitutive intermediate elongate section;

wherein said at least one substitutive intermediate elongate section similarly has a locking top end and a locking bottom end; and

wherein said at least one substitutive intermediate elongate section has a unique flexibility characteristic and is selectively interchangeable, in a modular fashion, with said intermediate elongate section interlocked within said sectional handle.

27. (Original) A sectional handle for a lacrosse stick, said sectional handle comprising:

an upper elongate section;

an intermediate elongate section;

a lower elongate section;

a first interlocking mechanism for interlocking said upper elongate section with said intermediate elongate section such that said upper elongate section is substantially axially aligned with said intermediate elongate section;

a second interlocking mechanism for interlocking said intermediate elongate section with said lower elongate section such that said intermediate elongate section is substantially axially aligned with said lower elongate section;

wherein a top end of said upper elongate section is suited for having mounted thereon a head including both a closed-loop frame and a net suspended substantially within the confines of said frame; and

wherein said upper, intermediate, and lower elongate sections are modular and said first and second interlocking mechanisms are releasable so that at least one of said upper elongate section, intermediate elongate section, and lower elongate section may be replaced as desired.